GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:953
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2015
New TV Channels
Innocent Shri

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) The details of guidelines laid down for granting license to TV channels;

(b) The number of news, entertainment, religious, sports and other TV channels being run in the country, category-wise;

(c) The number of new TV channels to which licenses have been provided during each of the last three years and the current year, channel-wise;

(d) The details of applications pending with the Government for seeking permission to operate TV channels during each of the last three years and the current year along with the time by which they are likely to be cleared; and

(e) The steps being taken by the Government to streamline the process of giving clearances to the pending applications in a stipulated time frame?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING {COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.)}

(a) Detailed Policy guidelines for Uplinking of TV Channels from India and Policy guidelines for Downlinking of TV Channels into India are available on Ministry's website i.e. www.mib.nic.in.

(b) Ministry of Information & Broadcasting grants permission under two categories i.e Non-News & Current Affairs and News & Current Affairs TV channels in accordance with the Policy Guidelines for Uplinking/Downlinking of Satellite TV channels. As on date Ministry has permitted 830 TV channels out of which 398 Channels are under News & Current Affairs category and 432 Channels are under Non-news and Current Affairs category. Religious channels & Sports channels are included in the non-news & current affairs category. The list of permitted channels is available on Ministry's website i.e. www.mib.nic.in.

(c) The number of new TV channels to which permissions have been issued during each of the last three years and the current year, are given below:

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Year No. of channels to which permissions have been issued Category
2012 37 News :11
Non-News : 26
2013 07 News :4
Non-News : 3
2014 45 News :14
Non-News : 31
2015
(upto November) 42 News :3
Non-News : 39

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(d) As on date 260 number of applications are pending with the Government for grant of permission to operate TV channels. As grant of permission is a continuous process, only cumulative data is maintained.

(e) The steps taken by the Government are as follows:
i) Regular monitoring of all the applications,
ii) Regular follow up with concerned Ministries/ Departments for obtaining clearances.

iii) Processing of applications as per the Citizens' Charter.

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